

PATENT CLAIMS

1. A whirlpool bathtub (1), comprising
- a tub part with a bottom which is provided with through-flow apertures for supplying air to water in the whirlpool bathtub, and devices for supplying air to through-flow apertures, wherein
 - the bottom (2) is provided with at least one recess (2a, 2b) which is flow-relatedly connected with the devices for supply of air,
 - each recess (2a, 2b) is surrounded by a substantially horizontal sealing edge (7a, 7b),
 - each recess (2a, 2b) is covered by a bottom element (3a, 3b) which abuts sealingly against the recess's sealing edge (7a, 7b), the recess and the bottom element together forming a distributing chamber (8a, 8b) for air, and
 - the bottom elements (3a, 3b) are provided with through-flow apertures (9) for air from the supply chambers (8a, 8b) to water in the whirlpool bathtub, characterised in
 - that the sealing edges (7a, 7b) and the bottom elements (3a, 3b) are symmetrical about vertical axes through the central areas of the recesses, and
 - that the bottom elements (3a, 3b) are provided with centrally located attachment devices (4a, 4b) which act together with corresponding attachment devices (6a, 6b) in central areas of the recesses.
2. A whirlpool bathtub according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises at least two identically shaped recesses (2a, 2b).
3. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-2, characterized in that the sealing edges (7a, 7b) and the bottom elements (3a, 3b) are circular.
4. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-3, characterized in that the bottom elements' through-flow apertures (9) are arranged asymmetrically about the vertical axes.
5. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-4, characterized in that the bottom elements (3a, 3b) are rotatable about the centrally located attachment devices (4a, 4b), for rotating the bottom

elements to a desired position with regard to the position of the through-flow apertures (9).

6. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 2-7,
characterized in that the at least two recesses (2a, 2b) are supplied with air
5 from the same device.

7. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-6,
characterized in that the device for supply of air is a combined device (11) :
for supply of air and draining of water.

8. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-7,
10 characterized in that
- the tub part is designed with one recess located in a lower horizontal plane
and an additional number of recesses located in an upper horizontal plane,
and that
- each recess which is located in the upper horizontal plane is fluid-relatedly
15 connected with the recess in the lower horizontal plane by a channel.

9. A whirlpool bathtub according to claims 1-8,
characterized in that the device (11) for supply of air and draining of water is
composed of a valve device comprising a housing (22) which is provided
with an inlet (12) for air and outlet (10a, 10b) for air to each of the recesses,
20 an inlet for water from the whirlpool bathtub and an outlet (13) for water to a
plug hole, and a valve for closing the outlet for water.

10. A valve device (11) for a whirlpool bathtub, for supplying air to the
whirlpool bathtub and draining water from the whirlpool bathtub,
characterized in that
25 - it comprises a valve housing, at least two horizontal outlets (10a, 10b) for
air, a substantially vertical inlet for water and a substantially vertical outlet
(13) for water,

- the outlets (10a, 10b) for air are provided in a plane between the inlet for
water and the outlet (13) for water,

30 - it comprises a valve for closing the outlet (13) for water, comprising a
substantially horizontal valve seat in the housing and a vertically movable
closing body (14) which by means of a lifting device (16) is movable
between an open position where water is permitted to flow through the valve

device and a closed position where an outlet closing portion of the closing body abuts against the valve seat, closing the outlet for water.

5 11. A valve device according to claim 10,
characterized in that the inlet and the outlet for water are substantially
coaxial.

12 A valve device according to claims 10-11,
characterized in that the closing body (14) also comprises an inlet closing
portion adapted for closing or substantially closing the inlet for water.

10 13. A valve device according to claims 10-12,
characterized in that the closing body (14) is substantially in the form of two
truncated cones with the narrow ends facing each other, the outlet closing
portion being provided in the wide end of a lower cone and the inlet closing
portion being provided in the wide end of an upper cone, and the area with
the cones' narrow ends is arranged for the passage of air to the recesses when
15 the valve device is located in the closed position.